



MNPD NEWSLINE

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF THE MNPD

September 21, 2007

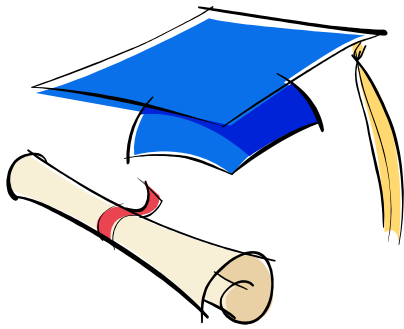
News from the Chief

Metropolitan Government entered a new era at noon today with the inauguration of Mayor Karl Dean. I have had the opportunity to meet with Mayor Dean twice since the election for briefings on homeland security issues and on-going police department investigations. I am convinced that the Dean administration will keep public safety a high priority in the years to come. Mayor Dean is keenly aware of the tremendous work of our police officers and professional staff. I know that we can look forward to his support throughout his tenure.

As Mayor Dean comes into office, I would be remiss if I didn't say a few words about former Mayor Purcell's support of this department over the past eight years. During the Purcell administration, the pay of police officers increased by 41% (the average American wage rose by 29% during those years); laptop computers were installed in all marked police cars; new Hermitage, North, Central, and East precinct buildings opened; an updated and state-of-the-art fingerprint computer system was purchased; development began of an Automated Records Management System, a vital capital investment to make our work easier and more efficient; and nearly 500 new police officers graduated from the training academy. Mayor Purcell and the Metropolitan Council strongly supported this police department over the past eight years. I fully believe that level of confidence will continue under Mayor Dean and the new Metro Council.

As I have said countless times to persons in the community who approach me to compliment your performance, we have a great police department staffed by incredibly talented and dedicated men and women. Any work force, public or private, has a small and sometimes vocal percentage of persons who are disgruntled for one reason or another. While this police department is no different, I well know that the vast majority of our employees are engaged and committed to making a difference every day. I deeply thank you for your dedication and service to this city and its families. It is your outstanding work and dedication that provides the platform to advocate for the best pay and benefit package possible.

Happenings



Twenty-eight new police officers graduated September 13 from the department's training academy. The 28 new officers will spend the next five to six months with precinct field training officers before patrolling the streets by themselves.

Session 55 graduates November 29.

Session 56 is scheduled to start October 1 with 40 Police Officer Trainees.



Bill Purcell presides over the 18th and last police graduation ceremony as mayor.



Members of Session 55 participating in weapon retention training.

The Precinct News

Hermitage

A gun was removed from a teenager on school property after heads-up police work by Lt. Terrence Graves.

The teenager was sitting in a vehicle blocking traffic during an Antioch High School football game. When he reached for his license, Lt. Graves saw a handgun in his waistband. The 18-year-old was taken into custody with incident.

During a traffic stop, officers detected a strong odor of marijuana. Seized in a subsequent search of a Mitsubishi Eclipse were two pounds of marijuana. One adult and two juveniles were arrested.

Alert police work by Officer Danny Crockett led to the arrest of a suspected car thief. A 19-year-old was sitting in a 2006 Honda Accord outside a condominium complex. He

told Officer Crockett the car belonged to his cousin, but when Officer Crockett ran the tag a different name was listed.

Officer Crockett located the owner who reported he did not know the suspect. The teenager was arrested.

South

A dangerous situation was diffused after officers responded to a domestic violence call at Hickory Hollow Mall. A woman was at work inside the mall when the suspect showed her a handgun. He left and she notified mall security.

Officers arrived and found the suspect sitting in the mall. They devised an effective tactical plan and took the suspect into custody without incident.

He had a handgun in the waistband of his pants and is charged with aggravated assault and unlawful weapon possession.

Excellent police work led to the arrest of a suspected car thief. A victim flagged down Officer Jarrad Rikal and told him two suspects had just stolen his pickup truck. Officer Rikal attempted to stop the pickup. The driver pulled over and fled on foot into a nearby wooded area. Officer Rikal captured the passenger who led officers to another stolen car in the parking lot of the Hickory Hollow Circuit City. These two suspects are believed to be responsible for a number of auto thefts in the area.

Outstanding investigative work by South Precinct detectives led to the arrest of murder suspect Jose Dominquez, 24, of Veracruz, Mexico.

Dominquez is charged with criminal homicide in the fatal shooting of Juan Tellez Benitez, 37, outside the victim's 371 Wallace Road apartment.

Dominquez is being held without bond on the murder charge. A federal immigration hold has also been placed on him because he is suspected of illegally entering the United States.

East

Officer Dante Wade spotted a man wanted on a PSN gun charge in the James Cayce public housing development. The suspect fled on foot. Detective Brian Brown arrived in an unmarked car and was able to take him into custody.

Detective Brown left the scene only to drive a short distance before he spotted a man wanted for aggravated assault. He was able to take him into custody as well. Two Top Ten Precinct captures in one day!

Coordinated police work led to the arrest of a man wanted since 2006 on carjacking and aggravated robbery warrants. Officer Kevin Allen received a tip about the suspect's whereabouts and passed the information onto detectives.

Officers arrived at the location in unmarked cars. Officer Allen attempted to stop the suspect, but he abandoned his car and fled on foot. The Aviation Unit responded and spotted the suspect hiding in a wooded area near Ellington Parkway. He was taken into custody without further incident.

Officers stopped the driver of a car for speeding on Gallatin Pike near Cahal Avenue. The passenger gave officers false information and when they attempted to arrest him he fled on foot. He was taken into custody after a brief foot chase. Seized in a subsequent investigation were 29 grams of cocaine, 18.5 grams of marijuana, and \$1,477 cash.

North

While arresting a man for an outstanding failure to appear warrant, officers located another person who was wanted on an outstanding burglary warrant. A convicted felon, the second man was also in possession of a stolen handgun.

Officer Brian Clark received information concerning an illegal drug operation at a James Avenue residence.

When officers arrived, they saw marijuana and drug paraphernalia in plain view inside the house. Seized in a subsequent search were two pounds of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Proactive policing led to the arrest of a robbery suspect. Officer Ken O'Neal pulled into the parking lot of a Jefferson Street market to investigate a suspicious vehicle when the clerk ran out of the store to tell him he had just been robbed by a man driving away in a gray Cavalier.

Officer O'Neal activated his emergency equipment, but the suspect refused to stop. The suspect lost control of the car and crashed on Herman Street where he was taken into custody. The victim identified him as the robber. Stolen cash and a handgun were recovered.

West

Heads-up police work by West Precinct Flex Officer Steve Parks led to the arrest of two 16-year-olds minutes after the robbery of a Belmont University student.

The 23-year-old female student was jogging on 47th Avenue North near Dakota Avenue at 8 p.m. when the two teenagers, with bandanas over their faces, approached. One of them pulled a pistol and demanded the victim's belongings. She gave them her cell phone and the suspects fled.

The victim went to a nearby home and quickly called 911. Eight minutes later, Officer Parks had the two teenagers in custody after seeing them running on Dakota toward 43rd Avenue.

Elijah Lynn Hall of Alameda Street and Jason Holt of Michigan Avenue were positively identified by the victim. They were charged with aggravated robbery at juvenile detention.

A career burglar's plans were foiled after officers responded to a business alarm on Music Square West. The suspect drove off, but bailed from the getaway car, and fled on foot. He was taken into custody a short time later.

The suspect, on probation for aggravated burglary, admitted he had broken into the business.

Central

Outstanding police work led to the arrest of two separate suspected car burglars.

Officers arrived at the Public Square parking garage after reports of a suspicious person rummaging around inside a parked car. The suspect was taken into custody and charged with two car burglaries.

Officer Archie Spain identified a man suspected of breaking into numerous cars in the Central Precinct. Prints were lifted and detectives are contacting victims and reviewing reports. The suspect was asked how many cars he had broken into and he replied "a lot."

Officers Jimmy Knight and his son Stephen worked together during Mission One on Stephen's first night as a police officer September 14.

Sources report father and son did their best to out do each other!

Aviation Unit

The Aviation Unit performs routine patrols during the marijuana growing season to search for suspicious activity on the ground.

So far this summer, the Aviation Unit has seized 341 plants from five fields with a street value of at least \$247,000 dollars.



The work of Officer Hansel led to the seizure of 172 marijuana plants.

Interdiction Unit

Police dog Raven's keen sense of smell led to the seizure of 90 pounds of marijuana from a car on I-40 in West Nashville.

Officer Jamie Scruggs, Raven's partner, stopped a 1998 Mitsubishi Gallant on I-40 west near the Bellevue exit at 10 a.m. for failing to comply with the move over law (another officer had a tractor-trailer stopped on the interstate). The Mitsubishi's driver, Jose DeJesus Ayala Villa, did not have a driver license. Officer Scruggs asked if there were any drugs in the car. Villa said no. Raven then sniffed the outside of the vehicle and alerted to the presence of a drug odor. A subsequent search of the car resulted in the discovery of numerous wrapped bricks of marijuana hidden in the rear bumper and dashboard. Villa later told Officer Scruggs that he had been paid \$200 to drive the marijuana from Memphis to High Point, North Carolina.

Villa, 29, of High Point, is charged with possession of marijuana for resale and driving without a license.



90 pounds of marijuana seized during I-40 traffic stop.

MDHA Task Force

Seized during an investigation of a leaseholder at the Edgehill public housing development were seven ounces of marijuana, drug paraphernalia, and \$1,424 cash.



Marijuana seized by MDHA Task Force.

Blue Notes

East Precinct

Commander Bob Nash

Reducing Copper Thefts: East Precinct Partners with Community Groups and Metal Recyclers

Thefts of air conditioning coils, copper fittings, building materials from construction sites, and copper piping from homes and businesses under renovation, increased dramatically when the price of copper rose to nearly \$3 per pound.

From January 1 - August 30, 2006, there were 32 copper thefts reported in East Precinct. During the same time period this year, the number nearly tripled to 82 copper thefts.

At a meeting of the Dickerson Road Merchants Association, one of the members pointed out that he saw people bring shopping carts full of copper to PSC Metals, a major metal recycling company located on South 1st Street, almost every morning.

In an attempt to proactively combat this rash of copper thefts, East Precinct Lt. Danny Driskell and Detective Bill Stewart developed a relationship with the management of PSC Metals and with the assistance of Flex officers, interviewed 79 people who were attempting to sell copper at the business. Thirty eight of those 79 persons had criminal histories of theft and burglary. The company is currently working on a plan to maintain a database of persons they will not buy metals from based on burglary and theft records.

PSC Metals employees are also proving very helpful in the successful prosecution of theft cases by providing photographs of both the seller and the materials sold.

With PSC's cooperation, we are taking additional steps to address the problem. PSC is now informing East Investigations about sales that appear suspicious. Recently, a customer brought in a five gallon bucket of brand new copper fittings. East detectives were able to trace the materials to a local plumbing company and determine that the copper had indeed been stolen. Detectives were also able to assist the company in prosecuting.

As a result of this initiative, the East Precinct is beginning to see a decrease in copper thefts. In July nine copper thefts were reported and that number dropped to five in August.

East Precinct officers credit community involvement, outreach to a corporate neighbor, and a commitment to community policing strategies, for the initiative's success.

Condolences:

Kermit Smith, father-in-law of Sergeant Keith McGraph, North Precinct, passed away September 10.

The grandmother of Officer Teresa Pulliam, West Precinct, passed away recently.

Jimmy Loftin, retired civilian Vehicle Impound Section, passed away recently.

Gary Maniscalco, uncle of Christy Maniscalco, Background & Recruitment, passed away September 17.

FYI:

There is some confusion about when officers are supposed to attend court on Metro Misdemeanor Citations. Appendix B from General Order 96-11 is listed below for your reference. On page 3 of General Order 96-11, in Article IV., B. Metro Misdemeanor Citations, "Personnel **shall** appear in court on any Metro Citation, including those charging violations of environmental codes and leash law, on which he/she prosecutes. Court dates **shall** be set as prescribed in Appendix B following this order."

Appendix B General Order 96-11 Court Appearance and Subpoena Procedures

- A. The following are the procedures for setting court dates on Metropolitan Misdemeanor Citations.
1. All court dates for Metropolitan Misdemeanor Citations shall be set on a Wednesday as designated below by police department assignment, at 1:00 PM.
 2. The court date shall be set on the assigned Wednesday **at least three weeks** after the issue date of the citation. However, the date shall not be set more than twelve weeks after the issuance of the citation.
- B. Personnel shall set court dates on the Wednesday of the month in accordance with their assignment as indicated in the table below. In those months in which there are five (5) Wednesdays, personnel shall not set court dates on the 5th Wednesday.

Personnel Assignment	Wednesday
South Sector and Hermitage Sector	1 st Wednesday of the month
Central Sector and East Sector	2 nd Wednesday of the month
West Sector and Traffic Division	3 rd Wednesday of the month
North Sector and all other personnel	4 th Wednesday of the month

If you have any questions please call Lt. Dana Lyon at 862-7658

As Officer Danita Marsh continues to recover from her gunshot wounds, the 100 Club of Nashville has committed to help her regain some of life's basic choices by financing the purchase of accessible housing and a specially equipped vehicle. Persons wanting to make a tax deductible contribution to assist Officer Marsh are urged to make checks payable to the 100 Club of Nashville and include the Marsh name on the memo portion. One hundred percent of the money donated will go to the Marsh fund. Checks can be mailed to The Hundred Club of Nashville, P.O. Box 190428, Nashville, Tennessee, 37219-0428.

The 8th Annual Law Enforcement Golf Tournament for Special Olympics is right around the corner.

Tee-off is Friday, October 5th, at Through the Green-Highland Rim Golf Course in Joelton. The \$60 tournament fee includes lunch, dinner, and the awards ceremony. Each golfer also receives a goody bag.

All proceeds go to Special Olympics Tennessee. Enjoy a fun day of golf and benefit a great organization at the same time!

Call Glenda Taylor at 862-7721 for registration information.

Holman Bible Outreach International established by the trustees of LifeWay generously donated bibles to Chaplain James Duke to distribute to volunteer chaplains.